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BOOK REVIEWS



IN CHARGE OF

M. E. CAMERON

GYNÆCOLOGY FOR NURSES, AND GYNÆCOLOGICAL NURSING. By Comyus Berkeley, B.A., M.B., B.C., Cantab., F.R.C.P. London, M.R.C.S. England, Obstetrical Physician to the Middlesex Hospital; Senior Physician to the City of London Lying-In Hospital. Surgeon to In-Patients, Chelsea Hospital for Women; Examiner in Midwifery and Diseases of Women to Oxford University and to the Conjoint Board of England. Price 2s. 6d. Published by The Scientific Press, Ltd., 28 and 29 Southampton Street, Strand, London, W. C.

This is one of those little books which come to us from time to time from our English cousins. Like many others from the same source, it is of little value in this country, where the subject is much more thoroughly dealt with than in Mr. Comyus Berkeley's little book.

The first half of the book gives a list of organs, genital, of the female human body, with a brief description which presupposes a terrible ignorance on the part of the student nurse, which the writer approves apparently, as he refrains from imparting other than the most obvious facts relating to them. Following is a list of the disorders peculiar to women, with notes of the causes and, in some instances, hints indicative of the treatment. As these sometimes consist of arguments for and against operative treatment, it is needless to state they do not interest the nurse student.

The second part of the book, which treats of the nursing in gynæcology, is of more interest to the nurse, only, however, as it serves to mark the contrast of technical procedure in the operating rooms of England and America.

OBSTETRICAL NURSING FOR NURSES AND STUDENTS. By Henry Enos Tuly, A.B., M.D. Price, \$1.50. John P. Morton & Co., Louisville, Kentucky.

The second edition of this little book, which made many friends for itself in its earlier edition, is a good deal changed from the text of

its first edition. It contains a brief review of the anatomy and physiology of the female generative organs, the order of procedure throughout pregnancy, labor, and the nursing of the puerperal period, the care of the infant, and of the patient during obstetrical complications, with an appendix on the making of solutions and the technic of sterilization.

FOUR EPOCHS OF LIFE. By Elizabeth Hamilton-Muncie, M.D., Ph.M. Greaves Publishing Co., New York City.

Dr. Hamilton-Muncie has evidently learned by experience how hard a matter it is to induce people to read, and encourage the reading of books dealing with the sex question. In her present volume she presents the subject very slightly disguised as a story, a romance if you like, embodying the life of two young graduates from a medical school, who, having taken time to fall deeply in love with each other while in pursuit of scientific training and medical degrees, decide to start in 'life as partners in their profession and also as man and wife. "Aunt Mehitabel" is made to utter all the disagreeable warnings which are supposed to be right and proper for the occasion; but they persist, in spite of such grim facts as invisible means of support, youth, inexperience, lack of patients, but they turn some of these things to account, and bring in others which Aunt Mehitabel counted of no value, and so they start in to face life together.

The story suffers terribly at the expense of the burden it is made to carry of hospital cases, college lectures, lectures to the Y.M.C.A., school-boards, and what not; lectures that bear the actual purpose of the book, and which deal with the sex question and its presentation to children and young people in a most able manner. For those who wish to present to their children the true principles of life there could be no more unique and beautiful early teaching than the spring time nature stories, telling of "father stamens and mother pistil" and the wee seed babies rocked in their tiny cradles; the story of the "Bean-baby," "the Pea-baby;" the stories that the March wind brought of "little Miss Hepatica and her sister Miss Anemone;" the comments of "Mr. Birch;" "The story of the Marsh Marigold;" "About the furry hoods and golden hair of the Pussy Willow babies; and how the Dandelion lost his hair." These for the first lessons, to be followed, as the children grow, by stories of how the wee fishes are born; of little Miss Stickleback, of the "Frogs and Tadpoles;" "Mrs. Oriole discusses parental duties with Mr. and Mrs. Blue-jay;" "Mr. Robin's care of his wife and children;" "Mother Nature's carefulness."

When the wee twin brother and sister have acquired an intelligent